

**MINUTES**

**MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

**COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

**Call to Order:** Chairman Bob Lake, on February 11, 2009 at 9:00  
A.M., in Room 152 Capitol.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Bob Lake, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Jill Cohenour, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Janna Taylor, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Dick Barrett (D)  
Rep. Mark Blasdel (R)  
Rep. Edward B. Butcher (R)  
Rep. Wanda Grinde (D)  
Rep. Robin Hamilton (D)  
Rep. Brian Hoven (R)  
Rep. Mike Jopek (D)  
Rep. Dave McAlpin (D)  
Rep. Mike Miller (R)  
Rep. Art Noonan (D)  
Rep. JP Pomnichowski (D)  
Rep. Lee Randall (R)  
Rep. J. David Roundstone (D)  
Rep. Jon Sonju (R)  
Rep. Wayne Stahl (R)  
Rep. Chas Vincent (R)  
Rep. Brady Wiseman (D)

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Jeff Martin, Legislative Branch  
Jennifer O'Loughlin, Committee Secretary

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 395, 2/5/2009; HB 476, 2/5/2009;  
HB 484, 2/5/2009; HB 494, 2/5/2009

Executive Action: None

**HEARING ON HB 395**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:02:24 Rep. Dave McAlpin (D), HD 94, opened the hearing on  
HB 395, New top marginal rate for taxable income.

[EXHIBIT\(tah32a01\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:06:50 Tara Veazey, Montana Budget and Policy Center

[EXHIBIT\(tah32a02\)](#)

00:10:47 Judy Smith, Citizen, Missoula

00:13:48 Bob Decker, The Policy Institute

00:17:24 Jamie Greer, Montana Human Rights Network

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:18:44 Jon Bennion, Montana Chamber of Commerce

00:21:25 Don Hoffman, Montana Taxpayers Association

[EXHIBIT\(tah32a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(tah32a04\)](#)

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:27:44 Rep. Butcher

00:28:18 Rep. Wiseman

00:29:01 Mr. Decker

00:30:50 Rep. Wiseman

00:31:25 Rep. McAlpin

00:31:54 Chairman Lake

00:32:06 Rep. Butcher

00:32:54 Mr. Decker

00:33:00 Rep. Butcher

00:33:29 Mr. Decker

00:33:49 Rep. Butcher

00:34:08 Chairman Lake  
00:34:19 Rep. Butcher  
00:35:16 Mr. Decker  
00:36:54 Rep. Taylor  
00:38:31 Mr. Decker  
00:40:54 Rep. Taylor  
00:41:36 Chairman Lake  
00:41:42 Rep. Barrett  
00:42:17 Mr. Decker  
00:42:31 Rep. Noonan  
00:42:46 Rep. McAlpin  
00:43:40 Rep. Hoven  
00:44:18 Rep. McAlpin  
00:44:43 Rep. Hoven  
00:44:57 Rep. McAlpin

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:45:21 Rep. McAlpin  
00:46:27 Chairman Lake closed the hearing.

**HEARING ON HB 476**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:46:36 Rep. Elsie Arntzen (R), HD 53, opened the hearing on  
HB 476, Revise urban renewal terminology to delete  
"blighted".  
00:47:03 Chairman Lake left the room and Vice Chairman Taylor  
took the gavel.

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:54:47 Chris Behan, City of Missoula Redevelopment Agency  
01:02:13 Brent Campbell, CEO, WGM Group  
01:04:49 Rebecca Guay, Chief Executive, Anaconda, Deer Lodge  
County  
01:06:56 John MacDonald, City of Missoula  
01:08:12 Alec Hansen, Montana League of Cities and Towns  
01:09:38 Kevin Nelson, Citizen, Billings

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:14:50 Rep. Miller  
01:15:21 Mr. Martin  
01:15:28 Rep. Miller  
01:16:11 Rep. Arntzen  
01:16:38 Rep. Miller  
01:16:47 Rep. Arntzen  
01:17:35 Rep. Miller  
01:17:55 Rep. Arntzen  
01:18:38 Rep. Miller  
01:19:04 Rep. Arntzen  
01:20:04 Rep. Miller  
01:20:25 Rep. Arntzen  
01:20:46 Rep. Butcher  
01:21:49 Mr. Behan  
01:23:01 Rep. Butcher  
01:24:03 Mr. Behan  
01:25:39 Vice Chairman Taylor  
01:25:53 Rep. Hoven  
01:26:04 Rep. Arntzen  
01:27:25 Rep. Barrett  
01:28:06 Rep. Arntzen  
01:29:04 Rep. Stahl  
01:30:03 Mr. Behan  
01:31:16 Rep. Stahl  
01:31:35 Mr. Behan  
01:31:42 Rep. Jopek  
01:32:23 Rep. Arntzen

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:33:00 Rep. Arntzen  
  
01:34:33 Vice Chairman Taylor closed the hearing and Rep. Lake resumed as Chairman.  
  
01:34:42 Break  
01:45:16 Reconvene  
  
01:46:15 The hearing began on HB 484, but Rep. Arntzen, the sponsor, asked the Chairman for permission to switch to HB 494.  
  
01:48:46 Chairman Lake called a recess and opened the hearing on HB 494.

**HEARING ON HB 494**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:48:50 Rep. Elsie Arntzen (R), HD 53, opened the hearing on HB 494, Provide greater public participation in urban renewal areas.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:55:28 Kevin Nelson, Citizen, Billings

**Opponents' Testimony:**

02:01:41 Chris Behan, City of Missoula Redevelopment Agency

02:07:18 Alec Hansen, League of Cities and Towns

**EXHIBIT (tah32a05)**

02:10:38 John MacDonald, City of Missoula

02:12:20 Greg Kruger, Downtown Billings Association

**EXHIBIT (tah32a06)**

02:16:18 Linda Stoll, Montana Association of Planners

02:17:20 Rick Edwards, Butte Local Development Corporation

02:18:20 Terry Myhre, Montana Economic Developers Association

02:19:05 Brent Campbell, CEO, WGM Group

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:20:16 Rep. Arntzen

02:21:00 Chairman Lake closed the hearing.

**HEARING ON HB 484**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

02:21:26 Rep. Elsie Arntzen (R), HD 53, opened the hearing on  
HB 484, Limit duration of tax increment financing  
provision.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

02:27:42 Kevin Nelson, Citizen, Billings

**Opponents' Testimony:**

02:32:08 Greg Krugar, Downtown Billings Association  
02:35:48 Anna Rosenberry, Finance Director, City of Bozeman  
02:39:26 Rick Edwards, Butte Local Development Association  
02:40:17 Chris Behan, Missoula Economic Development Agency  
02:43:53 Alec Hansen, Montana League of Cities and Towns  
02:45:15 Brent Campbell, WGM Group  
02:46:00 Terry Myhre, Montana Economic Developers Association

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

02:46:27 Rep. Sonju  
02:47:15 Mr. Kruger  
02:47:31 Rep. Sonju  
02:47:43 Mr. Kruger  
02:48:05 Rep. Sonju  
02:48:23 Mr. Kruger  
02:48:41 Rep. Sonju  
02:49:26 Mr. Kruger  
02:50:07 Rep. Sonju  
02:50:16 Mr. Kruger  
02:50:29 Chairman Lake  
02:51:00 Mr. Hansen  
02:52:11 Chairman Lake  
02:52:23 Mr. Hansen  
02:52:53 Rep. Sonju  
02:53:10 Mr. Hensen

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:53:46 Rep. Arntzen

02:55:08 Chairman Lake closed the hearing.

**ADJOURNMENT**

02:55:41 Adjournment: 11:57 A.M.

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Jennifer O'Loughlin, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT ([tah32aad.pdf](#))**